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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT

INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY Yugoslavia

DATE DISTR. 23 November 1948

SUBJECT Investigation of Alleged Sabotage
in Yugoslav Iron Ore Mines

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1. In view of the large number of cases of sabotage recently reported in the Trbovlje ore fields and the lag in the Yugoslav iron ore production schedule, a special commission of investigation, comprising Stane Kavcic of the Central Committee of the Yugoslav Communist Party, and representatives of the Ministries of Defense, Interior and Mines, arrived at Trbovlje on 22 September 1948.
2. This commission visited the Trbovlje mines on 25 September, the Zagorje mines on 26 September, the Hrastnik mines on 28 September, and the Moravce mines on 30 September.
3. Meetings with the miners were held in all areas. The miners at Dobna Neza in the Trbovlje area declared themselves unable to produce the required quota because of the scandalous working conditions, the state of the pit-props being such as to render work in the mine galleries extremely dangerous. Similar complaints were made by miners at Kisovec, Podstrana and Hotedez.
4. Neither the miners nor the mine-managers, however, were able to give any explanation for the poor quality of the iron ore.
5. The findings of the commission are that the trouble has been due not to sabotage (reports of which have been greatly exaggerated), but to poor organization.

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